

Dr. Ernest Dalton, educator, civic leader in Hackettstown

Dr. Ernest R. Dalton, 69, of Chase Road, Thompson, Conn., a former Centenary College faculty member and Hackettstown civic leader for 33 years, died Thursday in Day Kimball Hospital, Putnam, Conn., after a long illness.

He retired in May 1980 as assistant to the president of Centenary College, where he had been a staff member since 1947 and professor emeritus of political science.

Mr. Dalton came to Centenary as social sciences chairman. During his years there, he served as director of public relations, academic dean, dean of instruction, director of institutional research and vice president for academic affairs.

Before coming to Centenary, he was a high school teacher in Westford, Mass., and taught at Westbrook Junior College, Portland, Maine.

Born March 1, 1915, in Binghamton, N.Y., he was a son of the late Ernest W. and Lila Rockwell Dalton, and grew up in Hopedale, Mass.

He researched and wrote histor-

ies of Hackettstown, for the town's 1953 centennial celebration, and of St. James Episcopal Church, Hackettstown. He was working on a history of Centenary College.

From 1952 to 1954, Dr. Dalton served on the Hackettstown Council. He later served two three-year terms on the town board of education. He also served as town director of Civil Defense, chairman of the mayor's committee on municipal charter revision and as a member of the shade tree commission, the public library board and the environmental commission.

A 1937 graduate of Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, he earned two master's degrees and a doctorate from Harvard University.

He had served as president of the New Jersey Junior College Association and as director of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in New Jersey.

Dr. Dalton served on the Hackettstown Community Hospital Civic Advisory Council; was a charter member of the Hackettstown Historical Society, and a past

president of the Hackettstown Republican Club and Hackettstown Parent-Teacher Association.

He was a member of St. James Episcopal Church, Hackettstown, and the Thompson Congregational Church in Connecticut.

Honors accorded Dr. Dalton at his retirement included resolutions commemorating his service from the New Jersey Senate and Assembly.

During his time at Centenary, he lived in a house on Hatchery Road that the college dedicated in December 1983 as the Dalton Alumni House.

Surviving are his wife, the former Ellen Reynolds; two daughters, Mary Ellen Tomeo, Pomfret Center, Conn., and Martha Dalton Takacs, Campbell, Calif., and six grandchildren.

Services will be at 11:30 a.m. Saturday in Thompson Congregational Church. Interment will be in Munyan Cemetery, Putnam, Conn. The Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove St., Putnam, is in charge of arrangements.

Easton Express
September 28, 1984.

OBITUARY:
Dr. Ernest Dalton.
Date of Death
September 27, 1984.